

Amendment After Allowance under 37 CFR 1.312
Date filed **February 7, 2005**
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/814,183**

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 17 line 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Disclosed for example, in Japanese Utility Application Model Publication No. Sho ~~45-18569~~
46-18569 Gazette, is an example of a snap ring that is generally fitted around a pin and the like to prevent escaping of the pin from the other member on which the pin is mounted, and the other is of the kind to which shear strength is demanded from preventing such escaping. However, based on the fact that metallic materials generally have compression strength larger than shear strength, it is apparent that the fixing structure, such as shown in FIG. 4, utilizing compression strength is advantageous as compared with the structure utilizing shear strength if the comparison is carried out using the same material.